

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 11615 201650Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 SP-02 /043 W
-----202348Z 028196 /61
R 201705Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 11615

PASS TREASURY FOR SYVRUD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLAB, FR
SUBJECT: LATEST LABOR DEVELOPMENTS

REF: PARIS 10660; PARIS 11131

1. ON APRIL 19, DELEGATIONS OF WORKERS, REPRESENTING ALL 5 MAJOR FRENCH UNIONS, STAGED AN UNEVENTFUL MARCH IN PARIS TO PROTEST THE PLANNED LAY-OFFS IN LORRAINE'S STEEL INDUSTRY (SEE REFS). SOME HOURS LATER PRIME MINISTER BARRE SKETCHED OUT FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HIS IDEAS FOR HOW TO DEAL WITH THE STEEL WORKERS' PROBLEMS, INCLUDING, INTER ALIA, EARLY RETIREMENTS; THE ASSISTED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF FOREIGN WORKERS WILLING TO GO; AND CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN MANAGEMENT AND THE UNIONS. LABOR'S INITIAL REACTION HAS BEEN PREDICTABLY UNENTHUSIASTIC AND THE ASSEMBLY IS ON ITS SECOND DAY OF CONSIDERING THE SITUATION.

2. THESE RATHER UNDRAMATIC EVENTS HAD BEEN PRECEDED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 11615 201650Z

BY A DECISION OF THE SOCIALIST-LEANING NATIONAL EDUCATION FEDERATION (FEN) NOT TO JOIN THE CGT AND CFTD IN 24-HOUR STRIKES ON APRIL 28 IN THE PUBLIC AND NATIONALIZED SECTORS (SEE REF 11131). NOTING THAT ANY SUCH MOVE WOULD BREAK THE UNITY OF ACTION AMONGST THE SEVEN PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS IN THEIR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT, FEN

SECRETARY GENERAL HENRY DECLARED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO STRIKES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR WITHOUT COMPARABLE MOVES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. AS A SIGN THAT ITS HEART REMAINS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, HOWEVER, FEN HAS CALLED FOR A DAY OF ACTION (NOT STRIKES) ON APRIL 27 (A WEDNESDAY WHEN CLASSES WILL NOT BE IN SESSION) AND ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD JOIN WITH THE CGT AND CFDT IN A "DAY OF ACTION" ON APRIL 21 IN DEFENSE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM.

3. FOR THE MOMENT, THEN, NOTHING HAS CHANGED. THE QUESTION OF EMPLOYMENT IN STEEL, LIKE SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM, HAS BEEN PUT OFF FOR ANOTHER DAY, APPARENTLY FOR PURELY POLITICAL REASONS. HOPEFULLY, HOWEVER, THE PRIME MINISTER'S APRIL 26 SPEECH ON OVERALL ECONOMIC POLICY WILL UNVEIL SOME OF THE MORE COMPREHENSIVE MANPOWER PROGRAMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY HAS HAD UNDER CONSIDERATION. UNEMPLOYMENT APPEARS TO BE RISING, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IS STAGNANT (SEE PARIS 11366), AND SO FAR THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROJECTED AN IMAGE OF PASSIVITY IN ITS LABOR MARKET POLICIES.
HARLAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR STRIKES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS11615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770137-1044
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770438/aaaabgkz.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c13b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PARIS 10660, 77 PARIS 11131
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2748392
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LATEST LABOR DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: ELAB, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c13b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009